

with Eliza J. Hanson, am intimately acquainted
Frederick City, Maryland

Mrs Henry Cook

Respected Friend

Permit a stranger to acknowledge the receipt of your kind donation, from the Ladies, which arrived safe at this Agency & will be distributed, impartially, to the needy Soldier by our Loyal Ladies, composing the Union Relief Association & the delegates of our Commission, Donation as follows, 24 pocket handkerchiefs, 3 vests, 2 pr pants, 6 pr Cotton hose, 6 pr Woolen hose, 12 towels, 15 bandages, & some crackers, & dried fruit, Also 41 Comfort bags, This was a very nice and acceptable donation, more especially so, being the free will offering, of children, of your primary school, they having made up the articles from their own resources, as a present, to our noble, wounded, and sick soldiers, confined in our hospital, Many of whom, have been brought here by the casualties of war,

This evening I collected these goods for you - Comfort Bags 16 one from each of the children
Cavalry, Thankfully also they receive them

The rebels having paid us three dol-
lars during the war, Three times we were
the unwilling subjects of Jeff Davis, though
only for a day and a half, yet, it was too
long a time, for a free and loyal people, to have
a rebel to reign over them, Even for this short
time, it cost us \$200,000, and a large amount
of Merchandise, Manufactures, horses &c
Considerable of a battle very destructive to the
rebels was fought here, only 3 miles from our City,
The rebels had engaged some 16,000 men, and
40 caunnen, we had about 3500 men, 6 pieces
of artillery, the rebels had killed, as the graves show,
2 Commanding Officers, Gen Evans & Leung, 2
Majors, quite a number of subordinate officers,
150 private, & 1700 wounded, that were attended
to in our city, all that could be, were forwarded
south, 450 were left when they evacuated
this section, we had 175 wounded, & 70 killed,
Yet nothing has ever been said about it in
print, From the army of Virginia we have
many wounded and sick, continually com-
ing and going to and from our hospital

It would not do for me to mention what number, I do not think they will ever come to harm. Many have or may be again.

Last week we had 1637 inmates, 23 of whom have paid the debt of nature, during the week, 1120 remaining this week, the remainder forwarded to their regiments or other hospitals. You will perceive we have yet a great many to attend to, where want are faithfully supplied by our ladies, who do not grow weary in well doing. Were you here, you would see 50 ladies, carrying various delicacies, the workmanship of their own hands, and administering to these unfortunate brave men, who have bared their breasts in defence of our once happy country. They bind their wounds after being well washed, comb their heads, administer nourishment, sit by their bed sides, comforting them, wipe the death sweat from off their brow, place the coffin on their coffins, follow their remains to our cemetery, their final resting place on earth, when loved ones at home, are little thinking of the change taking place in the earthly prospects, of those near and dear to them, Such has been the

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^{occure}
daily, in our midst ever since the war
began, in our City, we being (unfortunately)
on 12 miles from the line of Dixie -
Rather uncomfortably near, but so it is,
Could you not then ladies, pay us a visit
you would, wonder at the patience & perse-
-verence of our self sacrificing women, who
think they are doing their duty, to do all
they can to make the soldier feel at home,
by ^{rendering} all the kindness that those at home women
would they here, I thank you and the dear
children of your school, in the name of
the sick and wounded soldier, And say
to them, Long as this war lasts, We shall
be pleased to receive from their hands, wha-
-tever they are disposed to forward, As much
-as is needed in a large hospital, to meet
the, minutely demands -

Truly your friend

Gideon Bantz Agent,
of Christian Commission

For more than a month, the soldier occupies
my undivided time - Have been in the service
three years in September -